

# Augusten Burroughs

## Quotes

*Writing, People, Thinking, Book, Children, Mother, Way, Hate, Years, Believe,  
Giving, Eye, Long, Two, Matter, Mind, Past, Cities, Needs, Knows*

You would be amazed by what you can give up, lose, or break, and yet still be a person who gets happy over brownies.

~Augusten Burroughs

...handsome people are always interesting to watch. But a handsome person in crisis is riveting.

~Augusten Burroughs

You need to grab your dream out of the sky like it's a kite and pinch the string through your fingers until you reach the spool.

~Augusten Burroughs

I myself am made entirely of flaws, stitched together with good intentions.

~Augusten Burroughs

I can't tell you how much I love Target and Costco, that kind of culture, because it's something I never felt a part of. I've always felt like a tourist because I have never fit in anywhere.

~Augusten Burroughs

Should I just sit down, right here at carousel seven, and shake until somebody's arms are around me and they're saying, 'It's okay, I'm here, I'm here, come with me to the institute.

~Augusten Burroughs

You are allowed to be alive. You are allowed to be somebody different. You are allowed to not say goodbye to anybody or explain a single thing to anyone, ever.

~Augusten Burroughs

His laugh is made of porch swings and lemonade

~Augusten Burroughs

But I can also write in crappy motel rooms, while standing in line, or sitting in the dentist's chair.

~Augusten Burroughs

I wouldn't want to waste any of my brain cells on forgiving if it's holding me back.

~Augusten Burroughs

I really look at my childhood as being one giant rusty tuna can that I continue to recycle in many different shapes.

~Augusten Burroughs

This is what you should know about losing someone you love. They do not travel alone. You go with them.

~Augusten Burroughs

There is no shame in being hungry for another person. There is no shame in wanting very much to share your life with somebody.

~Augusten Burroughs

When people meet me, many times they're very surprised because they expect someone who is kind of wacky with seven piercings and very hip and cool and New York City, and I'm not.

~Augusten Burroughs

Smoking had become my favorite thing in the world to do. It was like having instant comfort, no matter where or when.

~Augusten Burroughs

Although I was able to maintain a pleasant expression, I was mentally throwing up in her face.

~Augusten Burroughs

Maybe you feel pressure to be positive because so many people rely

on your good, fake-positive energy? If that's the case, screw everybody else. You're not a bottle of Valium.

~Augusten Burroughs

Like cubic zirconia, I only look real. I'm an imposter. The fact is, I am not like other people.

~Augusten Burroughs

But she did love him. I believe it. I know exactly how that is. To love somebody who doesn't deserve it. Because they are all you have. Because any attention is better than no attention.

~Augusten Burroughs

Nothing made sense to me anymore. I knew I was young, I knew I was small. But I was worried that I might already be ruined.

~Augusten Burroughs

Stars should not be seen alone. That's why there are so many. Two people should stand together and look at them. One person alone will surely miss the good ones.

~Augusten Burroughs

Real optimism is not the pep talk you give yourself. It is earned through the labor involved in emotional housekeeping.

~Augusten Burroughs

Do not wait for the healing to arrive. It will never come. The holes will never leave or be filled with anything at all. But holes are interesting things.

~Augusten Burroughs

Red hair is great. It's rare, and therefore superior.

~Augusten Burroughs

And of course, the answer came to me in the same way Jesus comes to those who drink in trailers: as an epiphany.

~Augusten Burroughs

After I got my coffee, I leaned against a stop sign and sipped, pretending it was a normal day and I was only up this early so that I could go running and not because I'd just been on a killing spree.

~Augusten Burroughs

I once read about a guy who lost his arms in a fire. The nurse took pity on him and gave him a hand job. I don't even get that.

~Augusten Burroughs

Thanksgiving was nothing more than a pilgrim-created obstacle in the way of Christmas; a dead bird in the street that forced a brief detour.

~Augusten Burroughs

Love is a helium-based emotion; Love always takes the high road.

~Augusten Burroughs

Because here is the truth: If you want to have a chance at meeting somebody with whom you are genuinely compatible, never put your best foot forward.

~Augusten Burroughs

The dark side of blogging is, of course, people can be (and are) just savage and uncivilized, deeply cruel and fully unaccountable.

~Augusten Burroughs

After was better. Before was only there so After could happen.

~Augusten Burroughs

The truth is that nobody is owed an apology for anything. Apologies are lovely when they happen. But they change nothing. They do not

reverse actions or correct damage. They are merely nice to hear.

~Augusten Burroughs

I think I love him, but I also think that you can love people who aren't good for you.

~Augusten Burroughs

Imperfections are attractive when their owners are happy with them.

~Augusten Burroughs

When you have your health, you have everything. When you do not have your health, nothing else matters at all.

~Augusten Burroughs

My mistake was in underestimating the emotional force of a song you have already hear a thousand times.

~Augusten Burroughs

I hate news and information and anything that threatens to puncture the bubble of oblivion in which I live.

~Augusten Burroughs

When I ate vanilla frosting straight from the can, I could feel God standing right next to me like a real best friend, watching, and smiling, and wishing he had a mouth.

~Augusten Burroughs

I know exactly how that is. To love somebody who doesn't deserve it.

~Augusten Burroughs

Long marriages have ended in ruin over tiny and insignificant grievances that were never properly aired and instead grew into a brittle barnacle of hatred.

~Augusten Burroughs

You manufacture beauty with your mind

~Augusten Burroughs

My attraction had been immediate and profound. And it had nothing to do with the way he looked. My attraction was to what resided between his lines.

~Augusten Burroughs

Bad news should be followed with soup. Then a nap.

~Augusten Burroughs

As a writer, you can't allow yourself the luxury of being discouraged and giving up when you are rejected, either by agents or publishers. You absolutely must plow forward.

~Augusten Burroughs

My window fogs and this makes me feel like there is no world outside of the car.

~Augusten Burroughs

This is what happens when you go against the grain of truth. You get splinters later on.

~Augusten Burroughs

My thoughts seem thick, ketchup stuck in a bottle. Like trying to feel someone's face while wearing goosedown mittens.

~Augusten Burroughs

It turned out I had always been a smoker. I just hadn't had any cigarettes.

~Augusten Burroughs

Any damage that's been done, you have to fix yourself because it needs fixing and there is nobody else to do the work. Blame may well

be justified, but it's not going to move you forward in your life.

~Augusten Burroughs

Miracles do happen. You must believe this. No matter what else you believe about life, you must believe in miracles.

~Augusten Burroughs

I like, though, that people have a hunger to connect with other people. They're desperate to know that you're not lying to them or misleading them.

~Augusten Burroughs

But my favorite band is Curbside Life, out of Chicago.

~Augusten Burroughs

And I tend to listen to NPR when I'm not writing.

~Augusten Burroughs

I've just finished my next collection, Possible Side Effects, and I'm now working on a collection of holiday stories as well as a memoir about my relationship with my father.

~Augusten Burroughs

You cannot be a prisoner of your past against your will. Because you can only live in the past inside your mind.

~Augusten Burroughs

It was a salad bar of phobias

~Augusten Burroughs

I was like a packet of powdered Sea Monkeys and they were like water.

~Augusten Burroughs



I felt a bottomless sadness. So completely alone. Like one of my stuffed animals at home that I was too old for now, that sat on the shelf in my closet, mashed against the back wall.

~Augusten Burroughs

There is no such thing as too ordinary to write about, whether that's life or a scene in a novel. What's interesting to people, whether it's memoir or fiction, is the truth.

~Augusten Burroughs

The most valuable moments and experiences that life has to offer are found only along its most treacherous paths.

~Augusten Burroughs

It terrified me to consider: What if, as a grown-up, I craved another body beside me as still as this one? What then?

~Augusten Burroughs

Just as I had long suspected, a person didn't really need math for anything anyway. Maybe some people did. Some limited people.

~Augusten Burroughs

And I began to let him go. Hour by hour. Days into months. It was a physical sensation, like letting out the string of a kite. Except that the string was coming from my center.

~Augusten Burroughs

To me, these people were as exotic as animals in a zoo. I'd never seen anything like them. I wasn't sure whether I wanted to be one of them or simply live among them taking notes and photographs.

~Augusten Burroughs

God, I felt certain, did not mind that I didn't press my hands together to pray. I was casual, but I was sincere. I knew that God existed as the

Correct Answer inside my chest.

~Augusten Burroughs

In some ways, blogging is like drinking - it gives a person permission to be a total asshole.

~Augusten Burroughs

We haven't slept together. But we've napped

~Augusten Burroughs

Part of me believes that love is more valuable when you have to work for it.

~Augusten Burroughs

What nobody understood then is this: The only way that you achieve what you want and fulfill your dreams and become great is by demanding that sort of attention. You have to make it happen.

~Augusten Burroughs

I was learning that if I lived slightly in the future-what will happen next-I didn't have to feel so much about what was going on in the present.

~Augusten Burroughs

My mother is from Cairo, Georgia. This makes everything she says sound like it went through a curling iron.

~Augusten Burroughs

As a child, I was never drawn toward depraved or extreme situations; I really wanted a normal little childhood. Unfortunately, that's just not what happened.

~Augusten Burroughs

I'm like the guy who prepares your taxes or a dentist. I'm very conservative and boring in a lot of ways.

~Augusten Burroughs

I did not consider him to be any kind of a genius. I considered him deeply lacking in the area that mattered most in life. Star quality.

~Augusten Burroughs

I'm grateful for a lot of things. One is not being a drunk wreck. Or losing all four limbs in some ridiculous East Village bus accident that I was so destined for.

~Augusten Burroughs

Everybody in recovery smokes. If you don't like smoking, don't even bother trying to get sober. Just stay drunk.

~Augusten Burroughs

Never work with children, puppies or bulimics.

~Augusten Burroughs

I remember, no matter how impossible it seemed that any given day would end, it always did. This one would, too.

~Augusten Burroughs

I felt deeply tricked. Stunned. And furious. I also felt my default emotion: numbness.

~Augusten Burroughs

Confidence is a reduction of your own interest in whether others are thinking about you and if so, what they're thinking.

~Augusten Burroughs

And in my mind, this settles the issue. I would never drink cologne, and am therefore not an alcoholic.

~Augusten Burroughs

If I were blind I'd rather have another blind person leading me around because they know what I'm dealing with and they're experiencing the same things.

~Augusten Burroughs

In the same way that a tornado rips the roof off a double-wide trailer, leaving the occupants dazed and staring at the clouds from the splinters of what used to be their living room, it was over.

~Augusten Burroughs

Saying just the right thing after a considerable, awkward pause is far less effective than saying the wrong thing with perfect timing. I'm telling you.

~Augusten Burroughs

All of us are richer and more fascinating and more complex than we can ever know.

~Augusten Burroughs

My brother was born without taste or the desire to be professionally lit.

~Augusten Burroughs

I couldn't help but think, This car is taking me to a mental hospital and my mother is treating it like open-mic night at a Greenwich Village caf  .

~Augusten Burroughs

Even when we lose an arm or a leg, there's not less of us but more. Human experience weighs more than human tissue.

~Augusten Burroughs

If you find you require willpower, you aren't ready to lose weight.

~Augusten Burroughs

The problem with not having anybody to tell you what to do, I understood, is that there was nobody to tell you what not to do.

~Augusten Burroughs

and she's a nurse. do you know how hard nursing school is? it's like medical school. so she's obviously smart.

~Augusten Burroughs

I knew that he was as reliable as a mathematical formula.

~Augusten Burroughs

Before I'm a writer, I'm definitely a reader and when I read memoir, I really want it to be true.

~Augusten Burroughs

We were young. We were bored. And the old electroshock therapy machine was just under the stairs in a box next to the Hoover.

~Augusten Burroughs

The only other people who have had experiences similar to those of this man were locked up inside institutions for the criminally insane. The difference is, this guy gets business cards.

~Augusten Burroughs

What police officer would dare ticket Death's minivan?

~Augusten Burroughs

He's a really nice guy, if only I weren't me.

~Augusten Burroughs

The most I would do was use the shadow tool in Photoshop to bring out the muscular rips in my stomach, which were honestly there. Beneath the fat.

~Augusten Burroughs

Because I've lived in one room my entire life, working at the same table that you use to pay bills at and eat at. It's going to be nice to have actual space.

~Augusten Burroughs

### **Related Links:**

- Writing Quotes
- People Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Children Quotes
- Mother Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Hate Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Giving Quotes
- Eye Quotes
- Long Quotes
- Two Quotes
- Matter Quotes
- Mind Quotes
- Past Quotes
- Cities Quotes
- Needs Quotes
- Knows Quotes